

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 24, 1976

10:30 o'clock a.m.

DOYLE G. BERRY,
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries
Building
400 Royal Street, Room 102
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.



Helen R. Dietrich, inc.
Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 • (504) 524-4787

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was held on Tuesday, February 24, 1976, commencing at 10:30 o'clock a.m., in Room 102 of the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Doyle G. Berry, Chairman of the Commission, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

DOYLE G. BERRY, Chairman

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Vice Chairman

MARC DUPUY, JR., Member

JEAN LAPEYRE, Member

JIMMIE THOMPSON, Member

DONALD F. WILLE, Member

J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director.

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A G E N D A

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT

1. Request from F & S Equipment Company, Inc.,
for permit to dredge for fill material
at Mile 164.5 AHP in the Mississippi

(5)



River.

2. Request from Kitchen and Ostarly, Inc. for (6)
renewal of permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Miles 107 and 108 AHP, near Harahan, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, for period March 25, 1976 to March 25, 1977.
3. Request from Atlas Construction Company, Inc. (8)
to renew their permit to remove sand, gravel and/or fill materials from the Mississippi River, at Mile 18 AHP, vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
4. Request from Atlas Construction Company, Inc. (9)
to renew their permit to remove sand, gravel and/or fill materials from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP to Mile 51 AHP, vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER

5. Request for right-of-way across Salvador (11)
Wildlife Management Area by Louisiana Power and Light Company.



6. Request from Exxon Pipeline for a pipeline across a portion of Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area. (14)

MR. KENNETH SMITH

7. Acceptance of boat launching ramp, pier and parking area at Lake Bistineau State Park No. 2 from J. T. Richardson Co., Inc., Ruston, Louisiana. (22)

MR. JOE HERRING

8. Resolution pertaining to National Wildlife Week. (24)
9. NASA request for use of Pearl River WMA bank for training operations. (27)

OTHER BUSINESS

10. Set date for public hearing on seasons and bag limits in May. (30)
11. Discussion of forestry practices in Louisiana. Mr. Robert Murry. (34)
- Possible lease of Commission property at Abbeville. (17)
- Russell Sage Foundation visit. (21)
- Appointment of Deer Committee. (42)
- Adjournment. (43)



CHAIRMAN DOYLE G. BERRY: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I apologize for getting off to a late start but, as they tell us on TV and radio, there were technical difficulties beyond our control.

Mr. Schafer, I believe you are going to take Dr. St. Amant's place this morning?

MR. HARRY SCHAFFER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, sir.

MR. SCHAFFER: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have a request from F & S Equipment Company for a permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 164.5 AHP. We have examined the request and find it meets all the requirements of the Commission and that it will in no way affect the interest of the Commission. We recommend that you issue this permit.

MR. JEAN LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. DONALD F. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant per-
mission to F & S EQUIPMENT CO., INC.
to remove fill material from the
Mississippi River at Mile 164.5 AHP,
for a period of one year from
February 24, 1976 to February 24,
1977, at a royalty rate of five cents
per cubic yard.

MR. SCHAFER: We have a request from
Kitchen and Ostarly for a renewal of a permit
expiring March 25, 1976, to remove fill material
from the Mississippi River at Mile 107 and 108
AHP, in Harahan, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.
This permit has been in operation for several
years and has met all the requirements of the



Commission, and we would recommend that we issue this permit for one year at five cents a cubic yard.

MR. JIMMIE THOMPSON: So move.

MR. HARVEY C. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposition?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Kitchen and Ostarly, Inc. for renewal of permit expiring on March 25, 1976, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Miles 107 AHP to Mile 108 AHP, Harahan, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana,



for a period of one year to March 25, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

MR. SCHAFER: We have a request from Atlas Construction Company for the renewal -- this is another renewal -- of a permit for fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP, in the vicinity of Fort Jackson, in Plaquemines Parish. This permit has been in operation for several years and has met all the requirements of the Commission, and we would recommend that the permit be issued for one year at five cents a cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure, gentlemen?

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Marc Dupuy seconded it. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)



THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Atlas Construction Co., Inc. for the renewal of a permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 18 AHP, vicinity of Fort Jackson, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from February 24, 1976, to February 24, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

MR. SCHAFER: We have another request from Atlas Construction Company for renewal of a permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 50 AHP and Mile 51 AHP, around Woodland, in Plaquemines Parish. This permit has been in operation for several years and it has met all the requirements of the Commission. We would



recommend that the permit be renewed for a period of one year at five cents a cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation.

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Thompson.

All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to Atlas Construction Company,
Inc. for renewal of a permit to remove
fill material from the Mississippi
River at Mile 50 AHP to Mile 51 AHP,



in the vicinity of Woodland, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from February 24, 1976 to February 24, 1977, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

MR. SCHAFER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, I have two items on the agenda for your consideration today.

The first one is a request from Louisiana Power and Light for a right-of-way across our Salvador Wildlife Management Area. This is a request that you have had under consideration for some year and a half. Louisiana Power and Light has now come to the Commission with a right-of-way offer of about \$1,800 per acre for this right-of-way, which will come to a total of some \$117,000 for the total right-of-way across this portion of our Wildlife Management Area.

We have solicited an opinion from the Attorney General's office as to whether the



Commission could accept materials and supplies as part of the right-of-way fee for this. We have been assured by the Attorney General's office that this is acceptable for the Commission to accept this in the form of the right-of-way fees.

Additionally I would recommend to the Commission that we check with all appropriate agencies of the Division of Administration and the Governor's office regarding this thing, but with this in view I would recommend to the Commission that we do at this time enter into a right-of-way agreement with Louisiana Power and Light for this right-of-way across our Game Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, what is your pleasure?

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)



THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission has had
under consideration a request by the
Louisiana Power and Light Company for
a 200-foot wide right-of-way across
a portion of our Salvador Wildlife
Management Area for the purpose of
installing a steel support electrical
transmission line, and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Power and
Light Company has agreed to pay to the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Com-
mission a sum of \$117,000.00 or \$1,800.00
per acre for this right-of-way, and

WHEREAS, this is the only
feasible route for the installation of
the line to service the West Bank por-
tion of the Metropolitan New Orleans
area;



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant unto Louisiana Power and Light a 200-foot wide right-of-way across a portion of the Salvador Wildlife Management Area and this line shall be installed incorporating the necessary safeguards for the protection of the area for wildlife purposes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

MR. ENSMINGER: The next item I have for your consideration is a request from Exxon for a right-of-way across a portion of our Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area.

This will involve about two and a half miles of right-of-way for their installation of a four-inch gas flow line on the Area. They will construct this in a push ditch and the ditch will be backfilled to the extent of the material



excavated and all appropriate bulkheads and water control structures installed to protect the area.

I would recommend to the Commission that this right-of-way be granted to Exxon.

THE CHAIRMAN: How long is this? How far is it?

MR. ENSMINGER: It is two and a half miles, four-inch.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.

MR. ENSMINGER: That is in Lafourche.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

MR. LAPEYRE: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor, let it be known by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposition?

(No response)

There being none, so ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made



a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission received a request from Exxon Pipeline Company for the installation of a four-inch pipeline across 2.56 miles of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area in Lafourche Parish, and

WHEREAS, this pipeline installation can be made without jeopardizing the wildlife habitat on the area,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant unto Exxon Pipeline Company a right-of-way for the installation of a four-inch pipeline across a portion of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and necessary safeguards be incorporated in the permit to protect the area for environmental damage, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that



Exxon Pipeline Company does hereby agree to pay the standard right-of-way fee of \$10 a rod for this right-of-way and the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

MR. ENSMINGER: Gentlemen, there is another item that I had failed to mention to you yesterday. The Commission owns a small piece of land in the town of Abbeville. This is the tract of land that fronts on the Vermilion River, has about 150 feet of waterfront property. The lot is bounded on the west by Highway 35 and it is some 90 feet in depth.

It adjoins property owned by a Mr. George Duhon in Abbeville, who is the Texaco bulk distributor in Abbeville. For many years, Mr. Duhon has mowed the grass on this lot that adjoins his property as a safety precaution for fire hazard at his oil installation.

He would like to negotiate some kind of a use lease with the Commission to utilize this property for parking and storing his bulk tanks.



and what-have-you on it. Of course, we have for years denied him the right to utilize the property and of course we would like to get your feelings with regard to whether we should pursue this thing or have the Division of Administration try and negotiate some kind of lease. The property is good commercial riverfront property and I think it probably would behoove the Commission to maintain ownership to the property. Someday we may want to build a facility at this site.

THE CHAIRMAN: Allan, do we have any immediate need for this property?

MR. ENSMINGER: We have never used the property. I think we probably purchased the property -- Ted, what, in the early 1950's? That would be my guess.

MR. O'NEIL: We purchased it for fur management on the refuges, which is no longer necessary.

MR. ENSMINGER: At one time we had planned to build a dock facility and probably a field office at that site but we never have utilized the property at all.



MR. LUTTRELL: Allan, do you think the gentleman in question would be willing to use the property with the understanding at at one day's notice or just a very, very short notice, he could be required to vacate?

MR. ENSMINGER: I am sure he would, Mr. Luttrell. Of course, there again, this is probably something that the Division of Administration through their Real Estate Division up there would probably want to enter into some kind of official lease with the man, with all the clauses or what-have-you in it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Allan, isn't this the same piece of property that the Director a couple of years ago asked us to put for sale?

MR. ENSMINGER: No, this is additional property. We own an old fur warehouse in Abbeville. Oh, we included the riverfront? I didn't realize we had offered it.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: We authorized the selling of the old fur warehouse but turned down the proposal ourselves of that property.

MR. LUTTRELL: I have one other question.



Would the gentleman agree to the use of it and also agree not to alter the surface at all, you know, to build structures on it or anything else?

MR. ENSMINGER: I think this would have to be included in it.

THE CHAIRMAN: If he puts stuff on it, Clay, he might need to, to utilize it properly, in order to pay for his lease, but if in fact we lease the property and we don't like what he is doing, he has got to put it back in the same condition it was when he got it. I wouldn't want to restrict the man to the use of it but I would want a covenant in the contract or in the lease that he has to put it back in the same condition or at least let our people look at it and determine if what he has got on there fits our situation. If it does, he can leave it; if it doesn't, he has got to restore it to its original condition.

MR. LUTTRELL: What I am getting at, I don't want to restrict him to the use of it, either, but I certainly don't want to restrict us to the recovery of it at any time we see fit.

THE CHAIRMAN: I would recommend, Mr.



Clay, if you want to make a motion, that we let Mr. Ensminger go forward with this and work with the Division of Administration and work out a proper lease. Allan knows what he is doing in this kind of thing.

MR. ENSMINGER: We will go ahead and contact the proper people in the Division of Administration and get their suggestions and then we can bring it back to the Commission and have you all approve the final lease before it is awarded.

MR. LUTTRELL: That's good.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Allan.

MR. ENSMINGER: For a couple of the Board members that were not here yesterday when I mentioned this, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Dupuy, the Russell Sage Foundation will visit Marsh Island on March 19. If you all would like, we certainly would be very happy to have you meet with this group of people.

In the past the Russell Sage Foundation has normally sent one or two members of their board of directors down on an annual inspection



but it appears that this year quite a large number, maybe as high as 14 or 15 of their board members, will visit Marsh Island, so it might be an opportunity for us to meet a large number of their board of directors and have a chance to show them around over Marsh Island and some of our wildlife management work there at the Island.

I will drop all of the members a note on the thing as to the date they will be there.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Allan. Kenneth.

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have a letter from Public Works, certifying that J. T. Richardson Company of Ruston, Louisiana, has completed the construction of a boat ramp on Lake Bistineau at State Park No. 2. This is a project financed partly by state which is federal aid financed and partly by Public Works. Since they are doing the engineering on the project, then we would recommend that the Commission accept this completed contract so that payment may be made on this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation.



MR. THOMPSON: I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: I second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson,
seconded by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposition?

(No response)

Hearing none, so ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission has con-
tracted with J. T. Richardson Company,
Inc. of Ruston to build a boat ramp at
State Park No. 2 on Lake Bistineau, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Depart-
ment of Public Works has certified that
the work has been completed;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission hereby approves acceptance of
the completed construction.



THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Each year National Wildlife Week is observed during the month of March and this year National Wildlife Week will be observed March 14-20. We feel like this is a real special time each year to recognize what is being done in the management of the wildlife resources of our state. This year's theme is "Save our Wetlands," which is very appropriate for Louisiana, since we are a state that has more wetlands than any other state.

We have prepared a resolution for the Director to sign on this and also we will have a proclamation by the Governor on this. I would like to request that the resolution be a part of the minutes. I would like to recommend to the Commission then that they proclaim March 14-20 as National Wildlife Week.

MR. DUPUY: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Marc Dupuy, seconded by Jimmie Thompson. All in favor, say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, in this Bicentennial
Year we should reaffirm our dedication
to provide a place on the American
scene for our great wildlife resources;
and

WHEREAS, the ponds, marshes,
swamps, streams, lakes, bogs, prairie
potholes, river deltas, and estuarine
area -- in a word the wetlands of our
nation -- are the key to the survival
of so much of our wildlife; and

WHEREAS, man is critically
dependent, both spiritually and eco-
nominally, on the wildlife of our
wetland areas; and

WHEREAS, wetlands are an



ever-shrinking resource because they are often thought to be of greater value when drained or filled to become cropland, highways, development sites, and the like; and

WHEREAS, we tend to overlook a human need of another sort -- the need to have healthy wildlife populations; and

WHEREAS, without our determined intervention, wetlands will continue to become dry lands, to the detriment of ourselves and our fellow creatures; and

WHEREAS, the period March 14-20, 1976, has been designated as a special time for expression of concern for wetland habitat;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, J. Burton Angelle, Director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, do hereby proclaim March 14-20, 1976, at National Wildlife Week, urging united popular support for all governmental and private efforts to



"Save Our Wetlands."

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item we have, we have received a request from the Navy Department, Commander Coastal Rivers Division Twenty-Two, for permission to make some practice landings on the banks of our Pearl River Wildlife Management Area.

This is a Naval Reserve group and they want to use this for more or less training purposes which they have done for the last three years there. These landings will be just coming into the banks there. They will not go into the interior there. It is just more or less a practice operation for their reserve people to learn how to land boats, 25-30-foot craft, just to go into the banks there.

Over the past three years they have done this but they have not caused any damage to the wildlife, to the banks there, to the scenery or to the environment. It is just a naval practice operation that they do conduct to help train their people. They will have approximately 200 reservists in there May 14-30. Now they will not have that number at any one time. This is just over



that period of time. There will probably be 20 to 25 each time there, and they do not go into the interior. It is just on the banks. They get back in the boat and go on.

I would recommend to the Commission that we grant this permission again this year for them to carry out these operations.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. I would like to comment on this a little bit. I understand, Joe, from what you told me yesterday, there have been some groups, particularly environmental groups, that complained about this group stepping on the grass and stomping the marsh down, but I for one would rather see our armed forces and our reserve system in good shape than to see a bunch of Communists stomping on it at their pleasure. For that reason I am highly in favor of it and I recommend it 100 percent.

MR. HERRING: Thank you. It is true, they have not caused any damage on the river bank there. It is strictly a training operation.



THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor, signify by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposition?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received a request from the Navy Department, Commander Coastal Rivers Division Twenty-Two, for permission to make landings on the banks of our Pearl River Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, this is a Naval Reserve group making practice landings for training purposes; and

WHEREAS, they will use only the bank areas and will not penetrate the interior since operations



are from boats; and

WHEREAS, one scouting session with approximately 20 men will be held this week, February 23-27, 1976, and the actual training session of approximately 200 men will be held May 14-30;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission grant the Naval Department, Coastal River Division Twenty-Two, permission to use the banks along the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area for their training.

THE CHAIRMAN: Under other business, we have to set date for public hearing on seasons and bag limits in May. We have always heretofore held this in Alexandria, I believe, and I got special dispensation from Mr. Thompson a while ago to hold this in Morgan City. I would like to have a little input from South Louisiana for one time and I promised Mr. Thompson if I have anything to do with it, I will move it back to Alexandria next year, but I do want to hold it in Morgan



City this year. Does anybody have any opposition to that?

MR. DUPUY: Are you serious about Morgan City?

THE CHAIRMAN: Morgan City, yes, sir.

MR. DUPUY: I have no objection. I was just wondering about the fact of people from all over the state going to Morgan City.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we are pretty accustomed to visitors, Marc, in Morgan City.

MR. DUPUY: I am talking about access and distance, that's all.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am not being facetious, just being funny. Mr. Wille, do you have any comment on that?

MR. THOMPSON: Do you want a motion?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

MR. LAPEYRE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Lapeyre.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: What date?

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Director, we will let



you select the date. Whatever date we usually use, whatever we don't have a conflict with.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, we had to move it up to May because of this Register, I believe was the reason, so can't we just make it the regular meeting?

MR. LUTTRELL: That's right.

MR. YANCEY: May 21 and 22 or May 28 and 29.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: How about the week before the 21st, which would be the 14th? That would be right after the legislature goes into session. The legislature goes into session May 10.

MR. YANCEY: Friday and Saturday.

MR. THOMPSON: No, we meet Thursday evening for our informal board meeting, Friday the formal board meeting and adjourn and go back into the seasons and bag limits hearing and then Saturday follow it up and disband after that, Saturday afternoon.

THE CHAIRMAN: For the Board's information, I will get a local group to sponsor your little feed and a meeting place on Thursday night,



and I think we ought to hold this meeting in the Municipal Auditorium in Morgan City. There is plenty of room and they have good facilities there.

MR. YANCEY: The options would be the 14th-15th, 21st-22nd and 28th-29th.

MR. THOMPSON: Question: Why are we doing the legislature first? Would that enhance us by having a chance to meet and discuss anything? Is it early, late or what?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: That may be. I am thinking mostly, Jimmie, along the lines of having it as early as possible in May to give these boys a chance to put their information together and when we meet in July or August, right prior to setting the season, the Commission would have as much time, as much leeway as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: What are the earliest dates in May?

MR. YANCEY: May 14th-15th.

THE CHAIRMAN: That would actually be the night of the 13th, and the days of the 14th and 15th. Does anybody object to that date?

MR. LUTTRELL: That's all right. So move.



MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the motion and second. What is your pleasure?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Chairman, you may want to check with the Municipal Auditorium manager to make sure there is no conflict. If there is, then maybe you will use your discretion at that particular weekend or the next.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, if there is a conflict, the Holiday Inn has a large meeting room we can use.

Gentlemen, all in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

Hearing no opposition, so ordered.

Is Mr. Robert Murry with us this morning?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: He is not here, Mr. Chairman. He sent a statement and asked that this be read into the record. For the information of the people, Mr. Robert Murry is a former employee of this Commission and his request is that I read this into the record.



It says: "I request the Commission to take a position, by Board Resolution, against two abuses of wildlife habitat of U. S. Forest Service Land in Louisiana.

"1) Against clear cut logging of large blocks of minor stream bottom hardwoods.

"2) Abusive grazing practices employed on parts of the Kisatchie National Forest."

MR. THOMPSON: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Jimmie, let me comment on that before we vote on it. That is pretty broad and I just got involved in the Russell Sage Management Area up in Monroe, where they alleged we were doing abusive cutting and logging and whatever. I got some out-of-state people, one from Mississippi and one from Arkansas, forestry people, to come in and give us a report on what they thought about our operation up there and whether we were doing something wrong or not, so to speak. Both reports came back that we were practicing good forest management, what we were doing up there



was right.

I also have a copy of a letter from the Sierra Club, stating that they thought we exercised good judgment and used proper forest management on the Russell Sage Foundation, and if we are doing anything improperly, I don't know where it is.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: This is not directed at us. This is directed at the U. S. Forest Service that is doing some of these malpractices in the feeling of this gentleman, who is a professional.

THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, I am off track. I am sorry.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, let me comment then if I may. As I analyze the situation, were I a forester, I would be on the other side of the fence, but I happen to be on the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. Therefore, I have to take the standpoint of what is best for hunting and fishing, and there is no question in anyone's mind that clear-cutting is detrimental to all types of wildlife, fishing, hunting and et cetera, so I would have to go along with Robert's recommendation.



THE CHAIRMAN: Jimmie, I am on the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and I want to make sure we have plenty of game and fish in this state, for people to hunt and do what they want to do with, but as I understand this republic was formed two hundred years ago for man to have a place to get a job, make a living, build a home for his family, and feed them, and then if he had a chance to hunt and fish, he could do it on weekends.

It seems like at times now some of our environmental groups have got the cart before the horse and they want the fishing and hunting and wildlife to come first, and making a living and other things to come secondary, and I just don't think that is right.

MR. THOMPSON: Let's hear from Dick, but let me tell you, I agree with you 100 percent as far as you go, but here is the way I analyze that situation. That is my money that bought and paid for that land and subsidizing it to the extent now, so therefore I am entitled to some benefit from it. O. K., if I am entitled to some of it, so is the man who is running cattle, so is the hunter,



so is the fisherman, so is the timber man, so is the whole personnel of the United States, so let's divide it out even.

O. K., it is a known fact you can grow timber without clear-cutting. It is just not quite of the quality that they would like to have, the production is not as fast, but why have more timber, less wildlife. Why not have an equal amount of timber as well as wildlife? That is all I am saying. Let's divide it out. I believe that every man in here has his money invested in all our national forests, and I believe every man is entitled to his equal share, and I think our equal share would be to forbid clear-cutting.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Yancey, would you go to the mike and explain to the Commission what position we have taken by prior communications?

MR. YANCEY: Actually, what we are talking about is 650,000 acres of land in Louisiana that is owned and managed by the U. S. Forest Service. Over the years we have met with them on numerous occasions and we have made recommendations to them that would help as far as wildlife produc-



tion is concerned, in connection with their forest management practices.

Several months ago the Forest Service employed a man and he has been given the title of Director of Wildlife Management for the U. S. Forest Service. He came through central Louisiana about six or seven weeks ago. We met with him and we told him that we did have some recommendations we wanted to make on how they conduct their timber management program so it would benefit wildlife. He said to us to put this list of recommendations in a letter and send it on to him and he would see if he could do something about it at the policy-making level.

We had a number of our people get together, our field people get together, and they came up with a list of recommendations on how these management programs could be adjusted to benefit wildlife. We have forwarded these recommendations in a letter on to this Directors of Wildlife Management for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Basically, the recommendations were that they would reduce the size of the clear-cuts that



they make on the national forest lands and that they would make no more clear-cuts in the creek bottom hardwoods.

Now they have been doing this and we feel this is very detrimental to wildlife management, because those creek bottom hardwoods are the oasis as far as food production is concerned for the wildlife that uses a given area. These are all hill lands that we are talking about.

We also asked if they would replant some hardwoods in some of the national forest lands in key locations that would provide additional food supplies for wildlife. We asked that they thin their pine plantations more heavily so that sunlight could get to the forest floor and produce more browse for deer and other forms of wildlife. We also asked that they increase the rotation age in their timber harvesting practices and we also asked that they leave an edge around wherever their national forest lands meet private lands, that they let a strip of land grow up in natural vegetation, so that this would be productive of quail and other types of foreign game.



As far as grazing is concerned, in many instances the Forest Service is controlling grazing under a permit system. In others, we think some of the lands are being rather severely overgrazed, and when you get an overgrazed situation, then you are not producing the wildlife. We have recommended that they effect some sort of control over that problem out there.

Those Forest Service lands are all open to the public. A lot of them are in game management areas. They are very heavily used for hunting purposes, and we think with some minor adjustments in their timber management program that they can become much more productive and serve a much more useful purpose from the standpoint of wildlife production than they are not.

THE CHAIRMAN: I admire the stand you have taken, Dick, and I certainly appreciate the fact and I am sure this Commission does that you have forwarded this information on to the bureaucrats, but my impression of bureaucrats is that the only people they will talk to is God and that is just to give him advice.



MR. YANCEY: Well, we are trying to approach this thing from the policy-making level and hopefully some positive results will come out of it. It may not, but it is worth a try.

THE CHAIRMAN: I didn't mean to open up a Pandora's box. Mr. Thompson made a motion that we adopt this resolution.

MR. DUPUY: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor, let it be known by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

Is there anyone in the audience who would like to speak at this time? Is there any other business?

Gentlemen, at this time it has been brought to my attention that I need to appoint a deer committee for this year. I would like to appoint Jimmie Thompson chairman of the deer committee, Mr. Luttrell a member and Mr. Jean Lapeyre as a member of the deer committee.



If there is no further business, the meeting will stand adjourned.

. . . Thereupon, at 11:10 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, February 24, 1976, the monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.

